

From: ctryon@eng.mc.xerox.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 11:37am
Subject: Proposed Microsoft Antitrust Settlement

Sirs:

I wanted to add my comments regarding the proposed settlement in the antitrust case of the US vs. Microsoft.

I want to say that I am horrified at the current proposed settlement! In my view, the proposed "solution" not only lacks any real remedy for the past illegal actions of Microsoft, or protection for the host of other corporations that they have already raped, but rather enshrines Microsoft's monopolistic Empire! In particular, it does nothing to curb the exclusive relationships which Microsoft can now force on manufacturers and distributors of computers and other electronic products. In addition, the proposed settlement has no clear method of enforcement, so that whatever remedies might eventually be implemented, Microsoft will have a huge number of loopholes and intimidation tactics to work their way around them.

Given the government's and the court's current hesitancy to break up Microsoft into separate, competing corporations, the ONLY suitable behavioral remedy must involve the opening of all of Microsoft's secret API's, file formats (e.g., MS Word) and network protocols. While this would in no way diminish Microsoft's ability to compete on the basis of the quality and price of their products (the very HEART of our Free Enterprise economy), it would prevent them from creating an environment where it is impossible for other companies to get the slightest toe-hold in the market.

Please, do NOT let Microsoft off the hook for their long string of illegal activities with nothing more than a chuckle and a slap on the back. The future of the US Free Economy depends on a free and open market, run on the principle of Law, and not manipulated by tyrannical corporations acting with the implicit blessing of the US Government!

Thank you for your time!

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"Never laugh at live dragons, Bilbo you fool!"

-- Bilbo, after a scorching from Smaug...

